Economics 3080-003 Intermediate Macroeconomics
Spring 2009 University of Colorado at Boulder
Instructor: Joe Craig
Office: Econ 304
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Office hours: Monday 11:00-12:00 and Wednesday 09:00-12:30 and by appointment
Course website: http://culearn.colorado.edu/
Lecture: MWF, 15:00-15:50 in Humn 135

Required Text: • N. Gregory Mankiw's, (2006), Macroeconomics, Worth Publishers – I have
put the 6th edition as a required text but the 5th edition is more than adequate, and much cheaper.
I would suggest looking for used/new copies online before buying at the bookstore to compare
prices. Also, the best strategy for doing well in class and understanding the material is to read the
corresponding textbook chapters before class. I follow the book topics fairly closely but will add
a few additional things as I see fit. There is a new version of the book available I recommend the
old one since it is cheaper.

Course Description: **Macroeconomics** is a branch of economics that deals with the
performance, structure, and behavior of a national or regional economy as a whole.
Macroeconomists study aggregated indicators such as GDP, unemployment rates, and
price indices to understand how the whole economy functions. Macroeconomists develop
models that explain the relationship between such factors as national income, output,
consumption, unemployment, inflation, savings, investment, international trade and
international finance. In contrast, microeconomics is primarily focused on the actions of
individual agents, such as firms and consumers, and how their behavior determines prices
and quantities in specific markets.

Prerequisites: Principles of Macroeconomics (Econ 2020) or Introduction to Economics (ECON
1000). Students should be familiar with the concepts of supply and demand, the basics of fiscal
and monetary policy, and have some experience using equations, graphs, and tables to analyze
economic situations.

Lectures: In lecture, new material will be presented that will follow topics from the textbook, but
may differ in emphasis. While attendance is not mandatory, *all students are expected to attend
lecture regularly.* Besides all the obvious reasons to attend lecture, some exam questions may not
be covered in the text but only covered in lecture. In the off chance that you miss a lecture, you
should get lecture notes from a fellow student, if they are willing to share. I don't give students
my notes as they are only outlines of topics to discuss and will not be of much help to you. Some
lectures will also include a discussion of assigned articles.

Article Analysis: Over the course of the class we will be analyzing a number of articles related to
the material covered. There will be approximately 10 articles. The article assignments will be
conducted on Fridays. One week before each article I will select approximately 12 students to go
find an article that relates to our current subject material. The students will have to e-mail me the
article they have selected by the next Wednesday along with a full page typed, double spaced
description of how the article relates to course material. I will then send out 1 of the 12 articles I
have received to the rest of the class along with some discussion questions. We will spend part of
the class on Friday discussing the article in groups and then as a class. Each student will have to
find an article twice. Each summary will be worth 4%. Class attendance on discussion days will

be worth an additional 2%. If you attend 8 out of the 10 discussions you will receive the whole 2%.

Grading: Your course grade will be based on the pretest, three in class exams, problem sets, the article analysis, and a cumulative final exam. Exam dates are listed below. The breakdown of grades is as follows: 1% for the pretest, 15% for each exam, 10% for article analysis, 15% for the problem sets, and 29% for the final exam. The final is cumulative and I will let you increase your score on the in class exams if you do better on the relevant questions that appear on the final by averaging the two as your midterm grade. (For example if you receive an 70 on the first midterm but score an 80 on the relevant questions on the final then I will increase your first midterm score to an 75.) There will also be one (and only one) opportunity for extra credit toward the end of the course

Examinations: The semester exams will take place during regular class time in the regular class room on the dates listed below. They will be a combination of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions. You'll probably also want to bring a calculator *(no cell phone calculators ,or any TI calculators capable of storing material).* Exam questions will be based on material covered in lecture and the problem sets. I'll talk more about each exam as the exam date approaches.

> *Make-ups for any exam are allowed only under compelling circumstances.* Under such a compelling circumstance, you are almost always required to make prior arrangements before the exam. Typically a make-up exam will be administered prior to the actual exam date and never later that 1 week past the exam date. Any make-up exam given after the exams have been returned will be an oral exam.

Important Dates:
Class Starts: Monday 1/12
Exam 1: Friday 2/13
Exam 2: Wednesday 3/18
Exam 3: Friday 4/24
Last Day of Class: Friday 5/1
Final Exam: Thursday 5/7 at 10:30-13:00.

If you have 3 finals in a day: If you have three or more final exams scheduled on the same day, you are entitled to arrange an alternative exam time for the last exam or exams scheduled on that day. Since there is only one exam possible before our final I expect to see you all there.

Tentative Schedule

Tentative reading list	Monday		Wednesday		Friday	
	12-Jan		14-Jan		16-Jan	
3	19-Jan	MLK	21-Jan		23-Jan	Article 1
5	26-Jan	Ps1	28-Jan		30-Jan	Article 2
7	2-Feb	Ps2	4-Feb		6-Feb	Article 3
8	9-Feb	Ps3	11-Feb		13-Feb	**Exam 1**
4	16-Feb		18-Feb		20-Feb	Article 4
9	23-Feb	Ps4	25-Feb		27-Feb	Article 5
10	2-Mar	Ps5	4-Mar		6-Mar	Article 6
11	9-Mar	Ps6	11-Mar		13-Mar	Article 7
	16-Mar		18-Mar	**Exam 2**	11-Feb	

Honor Code:

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/

Expectations of Classroom Behavior:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty members have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions.
See polices at
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html   and at
http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Absences:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please notify me as

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